

SPE

2. Theoretical; notional; ideal; not practical.
Some take it for a *speculative* platform, that reason and nature would that the best should govern, but no wife to create a right. *Bacon's holy War.*
- SPECULATIVELY.** *adv.* [from *speculative*.]
1. Contemplatively; with meditation.
2. Ideally; notionally; theoretically; not practically.
- SPECULAT'OR.** *n. f.* [from *speculate*.]
1. One who forms theories.
He is dexterous in puzzling others, if they be not through-paced *speculators* in those great theories. *Mare.*
2. [*Speculateur*, French.] An observer; a contemplator.
Although lapidaries and questuary enquirers affirm it, yet the writers of minerals, and natural *speculators*, conceive the stones which bear this name to be a mineral concretion. *Brown.*
3. A spy; a watcher.
All the boats had one *speculator*, to give notice when the fish approached. *Brown's Notes on the Odyssey.*
- SPECULATORY.** *adj.* [from *speculate*.] Exercising speculation.
- SPECULUM.** *n. f.* [Latin.] A mirror; a looking-glass; that in which representations are formed by reflection.
A rough and coloured object may serve for a *speculum*, to reflect the artificial rainbow. *Boyle on Colours.*
- SPEED.** The preterite and part. passive of *speed*.
His horse full of windgalls, *speed* with the spavins, and rayed with the yellows. *Shakespeare.*
Barbarossa, *speed* of that he desired, staid not long at Constantinople, but shaped his course towards Italy. *Knolles.*
With all his harness soon the god was *speed*;
His flying hat, wings on his heels. *Dryden.*
- SPEECH.** *n. f.* [from *speak*.]
1. The power of articulate utterance; the power of expressing thoughts by vocal words.
There is none comparable to the variety of instructive expressions by *speech*, wherewith a man alone is endowed, for the communication of his thoughts. *Holder on Speech.*
Though oft ideas are first acquired by various sensations and reflections, yet we convey them to each other by the means of certain sounds, or written marks, which we call words; and a great part of our knowledge is both obtained and communicated by these means, which are called *speech*. *Watts.*
2. Language; words considered as expressing thoughts.
In *speech* be eight parts. *Accidence.*
The acts of God to human ears
Cannot without process of *speech* be told. *Milton.*
3. Particular language as distinct from others.
There is neither *speech* nor language, but their voices are heard among them. *Pf. Common Prayer.*
4. Any thing spoken.
A plague upon your epileptick visage!
Smile you my *speeches* as I were a fool. *Shakespeare. K. Lear.*
5. Talk; mention.
The duke did of me demand
What was the *speech* among the Londoners,
Concerning the French journey. *Shakespeare.*
Speech of a man's self ought to be seldom. *Bacon's Essays.*
6. Oration; harangue.
The constant design of these orators, in all their *speeches*,
was to drive some one particular point. *Swift.*
7. Liberty to speak.
I, with leave of *speech* implor'd, reply'd. *Milton.*
- SPEECHLESS.** *adj.* [from *speech*.]
1. Deprived of the power of speaking; made mute or dumb.
He fell down, foam'd at mouth, and was *speechless*. *Shakespeare.*
The great god Pan hath broken his pipes, and Apollo's priests are become *speechless*. *Raleigh.*
A single vision transports them: it finds them in the eagerness and height of their devotion; they are *speechless* for the time that it continues, and prostrate when it departs. *Dryden.*
Speechless with wonder, and half dead with fear. *Addison.*
2. Mute; dumb.
I kneel'd before him;
'Twas very faintly he said rise: dismiss'd me
Thus, with his *speechless* hand. *Shakespeare. Coriolanus.*
From her eyes
I did receive fair *speechless* messages. *Shakespeare.*
He that never hears a word spoken, it is no wonder he remain *speechless*; as any one must do, who from an infant should be bred up among mutes. *Holder's Elements of Speech.*
- TO SPEED.** *v. n.* pret. and part. pass. *speed* and *speeded*. [*speeden*, Dutch.]
1. To make haste; to move with celerity.
So well they *speed* that they be come at length
Unto the place whereas the Paynim lay,
Devoid of outward sense and native strength,
Covered with charmed cloud from view of day. *Fa. Queen.*
Do you think me a swallow, an arrow, or a bullet? Have I, in my poor and cold motion, the expedition of thought? I *speeded* hither with the very extreme inch of possibility. *Shak.*
If pray'r's
Could alter high decrees, I to that place
Would *speed* before thee, and be louder heard. *Milton.*

SPE

- See where Idwall *speeds*! a trusty foldier. *A. Philips.*
2. [*Spebran*, to grow rich, Saxon.] To have success.
Make me not fight like the basilisk:
I've look'd on thousands, who have *speed* the better
By my regard, but kill'd none so. *Shakespeare. Winter's Tale.*
Now if this suit lay in Bianca's power,
How quickly should you *speed*. *Shakespeare.*
Macias shewed them what an offence it was rashly to depart out of the city, which might be unto them dangerous, although they should *speed* never so well. *Knolles.*
When first this tempter cross'd the gulph from hell,
I told you then he should prevail, and *speed*
In his bad errand. *Milton.*
These were violators of the first temple, and those that profaned and abused the second *speed* no better. *South.*
3. To have any condition good or bad.
Ships heretofore in seas like fishes *speed*,
The mightiest still upon the smallest fed. *Waller.*
- TO SPEED.** *v. a.*
1. To dispatch in haste.
The tyrant's self, a thing unused, began
To feel his heart relent with meek compassion;
But not dispos'd to ruth or mercy then,
He *speed* him thence home to his habitation. *Fairfax.*
2. To furnish in haste.
3. To dispatch; to destroy; to kill.
With a *speeding* thrust his heart he found;
The lukewarm blood came rushing thro' the wound. *Dryd.*
A dire dilemma! either way I'm *speed*;
If foe, they write; if friends, they read me dead. *Pope.*
4. To mischief; to ruin.
5. To hasten; to put into quick motion.
Hearing so much, will *speed* her foot again,
Led hither by pure love. *Shakespeare. All's well that ends well.*
Satan, tow'r'd the coast of earth beneath,
Down from th' æthereal *speed* with hop'd success,
Throws his steep flight in many an airy wheel. *Milton.*
The priest reply'd no more,
But *speed* his steps along the hoarse refunding shore. *Dryden.*
6. To execute; to dispatch.
Judicial acts are all those writings and matters which relate to judicial proceedings, and are *speed* in open court at the instance of one or both of the parties. *Ayliffe's Parergon.*
7. To assist; to help forward.
Lucina
Reach'd her midwife hands to *speed* the throws. *Dryden.*
Propitious Neptune steer'd their course by night
With rising gales, that *speed* their happy flight.
Speed the soft intercourse from soul to soul,
And wait a sigh from Indus to the Pole. *Pope.*
8. To make prosperous.
If any bring not this doctrine, receive him not into your house, neither bid him God *speed*. *St. Paul.*
Timon is shrunk, indeed;
And he, that's once deny'd, will hardly *speed*. *Shakespeare.*
- SPEED.** *n. f.* [*speed*, Dutch.]
1. Quickness; celerity.
Earth receives
As tribute, such a sumless journey brought
Of incorporeal *speed*, her warmth and light;
Speed! to describe whose swiftness number fails. *Milton.*
We observe the horse's patient service at the plough,
his *speed* upon the highway, his docibleness, and desire of glory. *Mare.*
2. Haste; hurry; dispatch.
When they strain to their utmost *speed*, there is still the wonted distance between them and their aims: all their eager pursuits bring them no acquiescence. *Decay of Piety.*
3. The course or pace of a horse.
He that rides at high *speed*, and with a pistol, kills a sparrow flying. *Shakespeare. Henry IV.*
4. Success; event.
The prince your son, with mere conceit and fear
Of the queen's *speed*, is gone. *Shakespeare.*
O Lord, I pray thee send me good *speed*. *Gen. xxiv. 12.*
- SPEEDILY.** *adv.* [from *speedy*.] With haste; quickly.
Post *speedily* to your husband,
Shew him this letter. *Shakespeare. King Lear.*
Send *speedily* to Bertran; charge him strictly
Not to proceed. *Dryden's Spanish Fryar.*
- SPEEDINESS.** *n. f.* [from *speedy*.] The quality of being speedy.
- SPEEDWELL.** *n. f.* [*veronica*, Latin.] Fluellin. A plant.
The leaves grow opposite by pairs: the calyx consists of one leaf, which is divided into four parts, expanding in form of a star: the flower consists of one leaf, divided into four segments, expanding in a circular order: when the flower decays, the ovary becomes a membranaceous fruit, divided into two cells, shaped like an heart, and filled with seeds, sometimes small, and at other times large and thick. *Miller.*

SPE

- In a scarcity in Silesia a rumour was spread of its raining millet-feed; but 'twas found to be only the seeds of the ivy-leaved *speedwell*, or small henbit. *Derham's Physico-Theology.*
- SPEEDY.** *adj.* [from *speed*.] Quick; swift; nimble; quick of dispatch.
How near's the other army?
—Near, and on *speedy* foot: the main defery
Stands on the hourly thought. *Shakespeare. King Lear.*
Back with *speedy* sail
Zophiel, of cherubim the swiftest wings,
Came flying. *Milton's Paradise Lost.*
Let it be enough what thou hast done,
When spotted deaths ran arm'd through ev'ry street,
With poison'd darts, which not the good could shun,
The *speedy* could outfly, or valiant meet. *Dryden.*
- SPELL.** *n. f.* [*spell*, Saxon, a word.]
1. A charm consisting of some words of occult power. Thus *Heracle* uses words:
Sunt verba & voces quibus hunc lenire dolorem Possit.
Start not; her actions shall be holy:
You hear my *spell* is lawful: do not shun her,
Until you see her die again; for then
You kill her double. *Shakespeare. Winter's Tale.*
Some have delivered the polity of spirits, that they stand in awe of charms, *spells*, and conjurations, letters, characters, notes, and daffies. *Brown's Vulgar Errors.*
Thou durst not thus disparage glorious arms,
Had not *spells*
And black enchantments, some magician's art,
Arm'd thee or charm'd thee strong. *Milton's Agonistes.*
Begin, begin, the mystick *spell* prepare. *Milton.*
Yourself you so excel,
When you vouchsafe to breathe my thought,
That like a spirit with this *spell*
Of my own teaching, I am caught. *Waller.*
Mild Lucina
Then reach'd her midwife hands to *speed* the throes,
And spoke the pow'rful *spells* that babes to birth disclose. *Dry.*
2. A turn of work.
Their toil is so extreme as they cannot endure it above four hours in a day, but are succeeded by *spells*: the residue of the time they wear out at coytes and kayles. *Carew.*
- TO SPELL.** *v. a.* [*spellen*, Dutch.]
1. To write with the proper letters.
In the criticism of *spelling*, the word *satire* ought to be with i, and not with y; and if this be so, then it is false *spelled* throughout. *Dryden's Juvenal, Dedication.*
2. To read by naming letters singly.
I never yet saw man,
How wise, how noble, young, how rarely featur'd,
But he would *spell* him backward; if fair fac'd,
She'd swear the gentleman should be her sister. *Shakespeare.*
3. To charm.
I have you fast:
Unchain your spirits now with *spelling* charms,
And try if they can gain your liberty. *Shak. Henry VI.*
This gather'd in the planetary hour,
With noxious weeds, and *spell'd* with words of pow'r,
Dire stepdames in the magic bowl infuse. *Dryden.*
- TO SPELL.** *v. n.*
1. To form words of letters.
What small knowledge was, in them did dwell;
And he a god, who could but read or *spell*. *Dryden.*
By passing on the vowels and consonants on the sides of four dice, he has made this a play for his children, whereby his eldest son in coats, has played himself into *spelling*. *Locke.*
The Latin, being written of the same character with the mother-tongue, by the assistance of a *spelling* book, it is legible. *Speilator.*
Another cause, which hath maimed our language, is a foolish opinion that we ought to *spell* exactly as we speak. *Swift.*
2. To read.
If I read aught in heav'n,
Or heav'n write aught of fate, by what the stars,
Voluminous or single characters,
In their conjunction met, give me to *spell*,
Sorrow and labours, opposition, hate,
Attends thee. *Milton's Paradise Lost.*
When gowns, not arms, repell'd
The fierce Epirote, and the African bold,
Whether to settle peace, or to unfold
The drift of hollow flates, hard to be *spell'd*. *Milton.*
And may at last my weary age
Find out the peaceful hermitage,
Where I may fit and rightly *spell*
Of every star that heav'n doth shew,
And every herb that tips the dew. *Milton.*
3. To read unskillfully.
As to his understanding, they bring him in void of all notion, a rude unwritten blank; sent into the world only to read and *spell* out a God in the works of creation. *South.*

SPE

- TO SPELT.** *v. n.* To split; to break. A bad word.
Feed geese with oats, *spelted* beans, barley-meal, or ground malt mixed with beer. *Martimer's Husbandry.*
- SPE'LT'ER.** *n. f.* A kind of semi-metal.
Metals in fusion do not flame for want of a copious fume, except *spelter*, which fumes copiously, and thereby flames. *Newt.*
- TO SPEND.** *v. a.* [*spenban*, Saxon; *spendere*, Italian.]
1. To consume; to exhaust; to lay out.
Our cannons malice vainly shall be *spent*
Against th' invulnerable clouds. *Shakespeare.*
I will very gladly *spend* and be *spent* for you. *2 Cor. xii. 15.*
There is oil in the dwelling of the wife, but a foolish man *spendeth* it up. *Prov. xxi. 20.*
We must exasperate
Th' almighty Victor to *spend* all his rage. *Milton.*
Thus labour could at first begin a title of property in the common things of nature, and *spending* it upon our uses bound it. *Locke.*
Money is brought into England by nothing but *spending* here less of foreign commodities than what we carry to market can pay for. *Locke.*
2. To bestow as expence; to expend.
Wherefore do ye *spend* money for that which is not bread? *Is. lv. 2.*
Eleutherius, perceiving that he was unwilling to *spend* any more time upon the debate, thought not fit to make any mention to him of the proposed opinion. *Boyle.*
3. To effuse.
Coward dogs
Most *spend* their mouths, when what they seem to threaten
Runs far before them. *Shakespeare. Henry V.*
4. To squander; to lavish.
They bend their bows, they whirl their slings around;
Heaps of *spent* arrows fall, and strew the ground. *Dryden.*
The whole of our reflections terminate in this, what course we are to take to pass our time; some to get, and others to *spend* their estates. *Waller.*
5. To pass.
When we can intreat an hour to serve,
Would *spend* it in some words upon that business,
If you would grant the time. *Shakespeare. Macbeth.*
They *spend* their days in wealth, and in a moment go down to the grave. *Job xxi. 13.*
He *spends* his life with his wife, and remembereth neither father nor mother. *1 Esdr. iv. 21.*
When he was of riper years, for his father's accomplishment, he *spent* a considerable part of his time in travelling. *Pope.*
6. To waste; to wear out.
In those pastoral pastimes a great many days were *spent*, to follow their flying predecessors. *Sidney.*
The waves ascended and descended, 'till their violence being *spent* by degrees, they settled at last. *Burnet's Theo. of the Earth.*
The winds are rais'd, the storm blows high;
Be it your care, my friends, to keep it up
In its full fury, and direct it right,
'Till it has *spent* itself on Cato's head. *Addison's Cato.*
7. To fatigue; to harass.
Nothing but only the hope of spoil did relieve them, having scarce clothes to cover their nakedness, and their bodies *spent* with long labour and thirst. *Knolles's History of the Turks.*
Or come your shipping in our ports to lay,
Spent and disabled in so long a way? *Dryden's Æn.*
Our walls are thinly mann'd, our best men slain;
The rest, an heartless number, *spent* with watching,
And harass'd out with duty. *Dryden.*
Some *spent* with toil, some with despair oppress'd,
Leap'd headlong from the heights, the flames consum'd the rest. *Dryden's Æn.*
Thou oft hast seen me
Wrestling with vice and faction; now thou see'st me
Spent, overpower'd, despairing of success. *Addison's Cato.*
- TO SPEND.** *v. n.*
1. To make expence.
Henceforth your tongue must *spend* at lesser rate,
Than in its flames to wrap a nation's fate. *Dryden.*
He *spends* as a person who knows that he must come to a reckoning. *South.*
2. To prove in the use.
Butter *spent* as if it came from the richer soil. *Temple.*
3. To be lost or wasted.
The found *spendeth* and is dissipated in the open air; but in such concaves it is conserved and contracted. *Bacon.*
On mountains, it may be, many dews fall, that *spend* before they come to the valleys. *Bacon.*
4. To be employed to any use.
There have been cups and an image of Jupiter made of wild vines; for the vines that they use for wine are so often cut, that their sap *spendeth* into the grapes. *Bacon.*
- SPENDER.** *n. f.* [from *spend*.]
1. One who spends.
Let not your recreations be lavish *spenders* of your time; but healthful, short, and apt to refresh you. *Taylor.*
2. A